



Brownfields 2008 Grant Fact Sheet

Valley, AL

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Valley was selected to receive two brownfields cleanup grants. Valley (population 9,022) sits along the Chattahoochee River on the eastern border of Alabama. Its history dates back to the 1860s when textile mills were built along the river. By the turn of the 21st Century, five of the six mills had closed, and the sixth has experienced severe cutbacks. Since 2001, the city has lost approximately 1,900 jobs. In addition to an increase in unemployment, the city experienced a dramatic decrease in its tax base. Once the target sites are cleaned up, the city plans to convert the Langdale and Riverdale Mill sites into a downtown center with a variety of features, including housing, retail space, a hotel, and a learning center. This redevelopment is expected to create jobs in the area, and increase the local tax base and property values.



Cleanup Grants

New
2008

\$235,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the City of Valley for two brownfields cleanup grants. Petroleum grant funds will be used to clean up the Langdale Mill property at 5910 19th Street and the Riverdale Mill property at 50 Middle Street. Starting in 1860, the mills were used to manufacture textile products. Spills from old above-ground storage tanks at the Langdale site threaten the nearby Chattahoochee River and the soil around the site. Spills and overfill from an above-ground storage tank at the Riverdale site have impacted the soil at the site. Grant funds will be used to plan and oversee the cleanups, remove the tanks, and analyze and dispose of impacted soil. Grant funds also will be used to support community outreach activities.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 4 Brownfields Team
404-562-8792

<http://www.epa.gov/region4/waste/bf>

Grant Recipient: City of Valley, AL
334-756-5220

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.